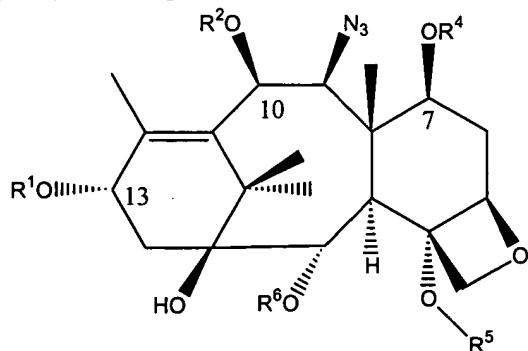


**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A compound of the formula



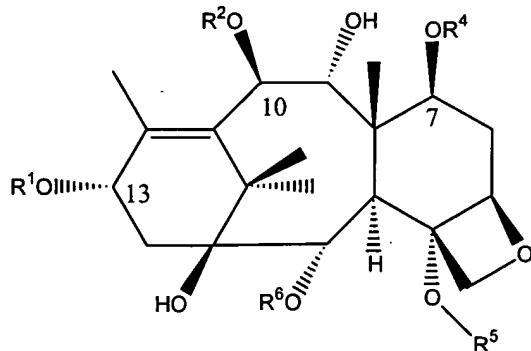
wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent a hydroxyl protecting group.

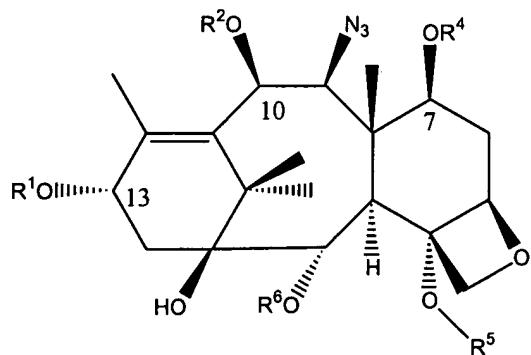
3. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is, independently at each location, formyl, acetyl, dichloroacetyl, propionyl, isopropionyl, pivalyl, trimethylsilyl, triethylsilyl, triisopropylsilyl, dimethylisopropylsilyl, diethylisopropylsilyl, tert-butyldimethylsilyl, methyldiphenylsilyl, dimethylphenylsilyl, tert-butyldiphenylsilyl, tribenzylsilyl, triphenylsilyl, trichloroethoxycarbonyl, benzyl, para-nitrobenzyl, para-methoxybenzyl, benzoyl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methoxymethyl, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, para-methoxyphenyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, alkylsulfonyl or arylsulfonyl.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is acetyl, R<sup>2</sup> is acetyl, R<sup>4</sup> is a hydroxyl protecting group, R<sup>5</sup> is acetyl, and R<sup>6</sup> is benzoyl.

5. (Original) A method comprising reacting a compound of the formula



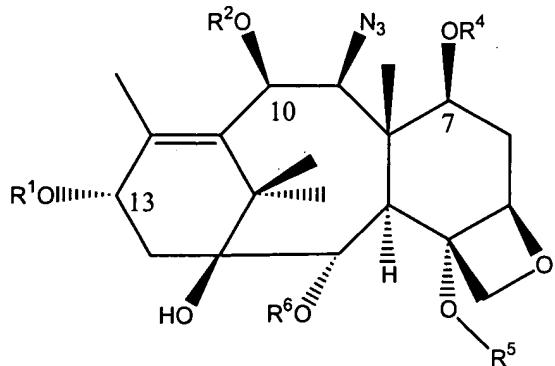
by a Mitsunobu displacement reaction using an azide compound, so as to provide a compound of the formula



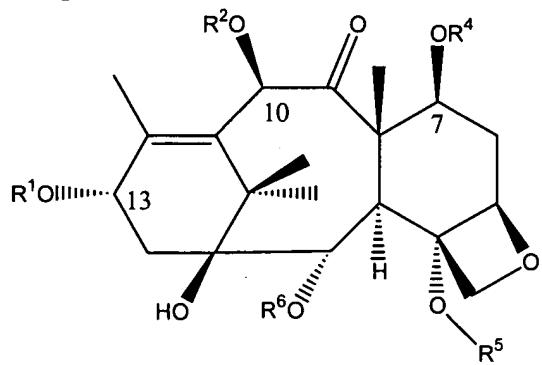
wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) A process comprising oxidizing a compound of the formula



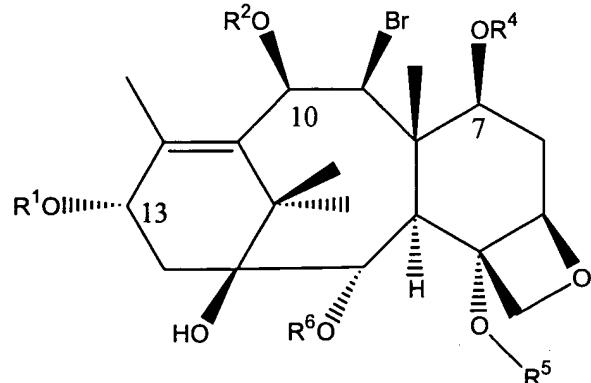
to provide a compound of the formula



wherein  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^4$ ,  $\text{R}^5$  and  $\text{R}^6$  each represent a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

8. (Original) The process of claim 7 wherein the azide is converted to a carbonyl compound by using an alkoxide in THF, most preferably either LiOMe or NaOMe followed by acidic hydrolysis.

9. (Original) A compound of the formula



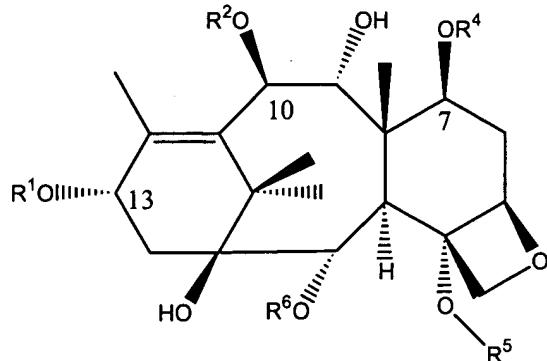
wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

10. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent a hydroxyl protecting group, and R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen.

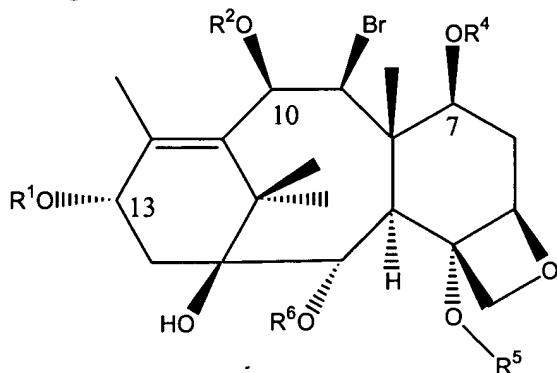
11. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein each of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> is, independently at each location, formyl, acetyl, dichloroacetyl, propionyl, isopropionyl, pivalyl, trimethylsilyl, triethylsilyl, triisopropylsilyl, dimethylisopropylsilyl, diethylisopropylsilyl, tert-butyldimethylsilyl, methyldiphenylsilyl, dimethylphenylsilyl, tert-butyldiphenylsilyl, tribenzylsilyl, triphenylsilyl, trichloroethoxycarbonyl, benzyl, para-nitrobenzyl, para-methoxybenzyl, benzoyl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methoxymethyl, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, para-methoxyphenyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, alkylsulfonyl or arylsulfonyl.

12. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is acetyl, R<sup>2</sup> is acetyl, R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>5</sup> is acetyl, and R<sup>6</sup> is benzoyl.

13. (Original) A process comprising bromination of a compound of the formula



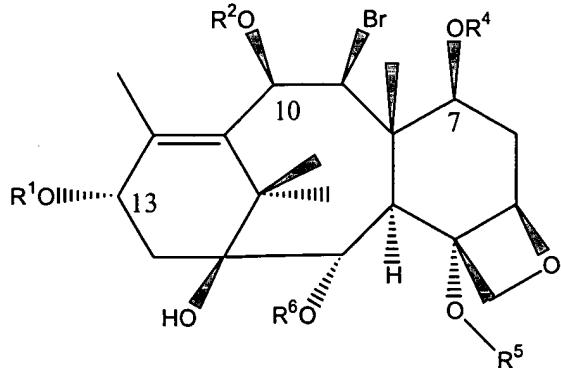
to provide a compound of the formula



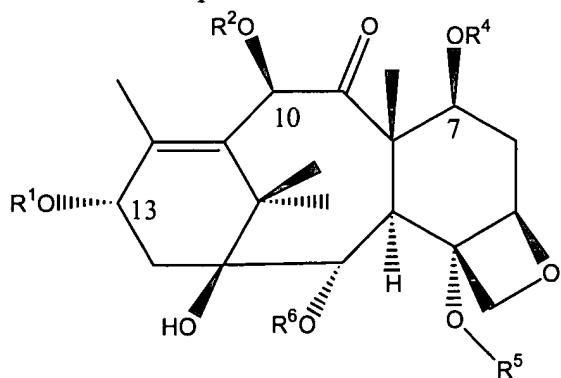
wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

14. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein the bromination comprises use of a brominating agent.

15. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein the compound of the formula

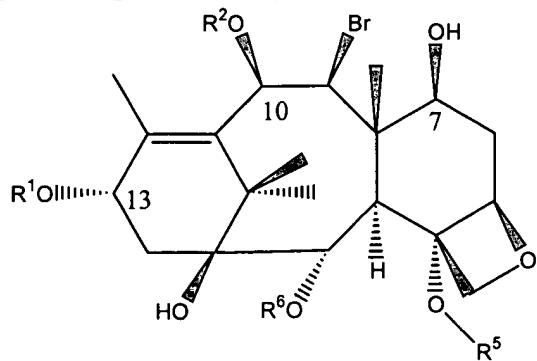


is in admixture with a compound of formula

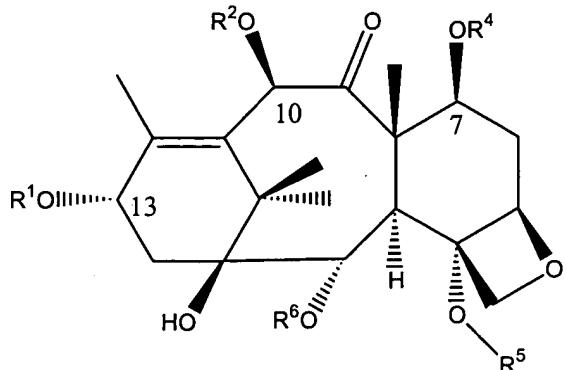


wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

16. (Original) A process comprising oxidation of a compound of the formula



to provide a compound of the formula

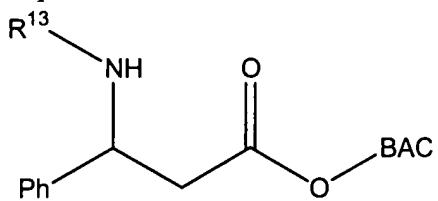


wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

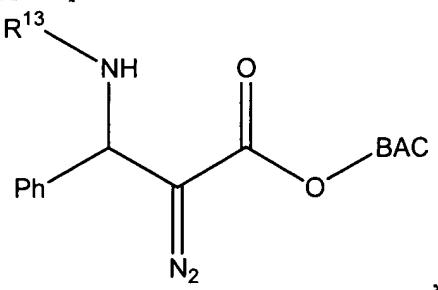
17. (Original) The process of claim 16 wherein a bromide is converted to an azide and the azide is converted to a carbonyl.

18.-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) The process of claims 35 and 36 A process comprising treating a starting compound of the formula

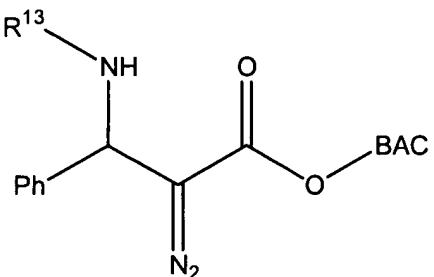


wherein R<sup>13</sup> represents hydrogen or an amine protecting group, under diazotiation conditions, to provide a product compound of the formula

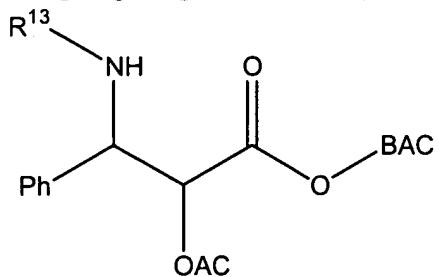


wherein the diazotiation conditions comprise tosyl azide and at least base selected from triethylamine and diazobicycloundecane.

38. (Original) A process comprising treating a compound of the formula

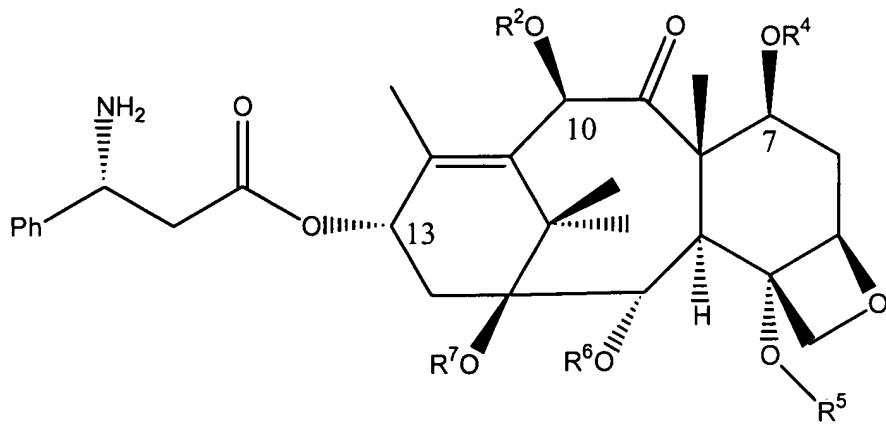


where  $\text{R}^{13}$  is hydrogen or an amine protecting group, under conditions that convert a diazo group to an acetate group, to provide a compound of the formula

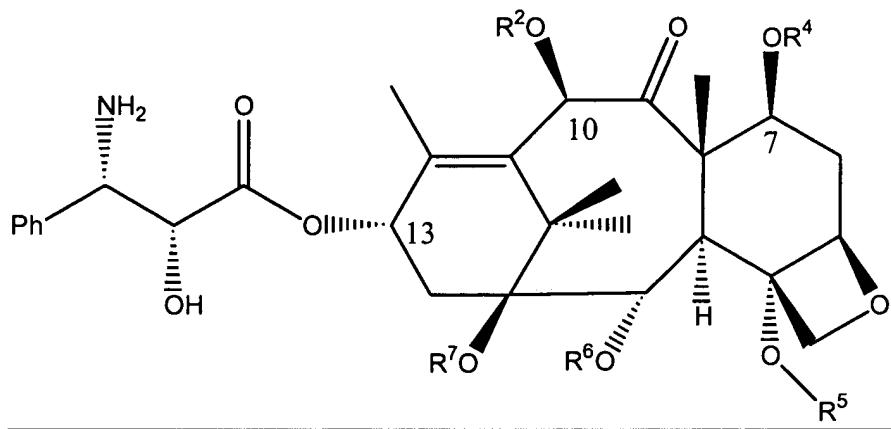


39.-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A process comprising enolate oxidation of a starting compound of the formula



to provide a product compound of the formula



wherein  $R^2$  is a hydroxyl protecting group,  $R^4$  is hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group,  $R^5$  is a hydroxyl protecting group,  $R^6$  is a hydroxyl protecting group, and  $R^7$  is hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group. The process of claim 49 wherein the starting compound is ~~exposing exposed~~ to oxidizing conditions comprising potassium hexamethyldisilazide and a molybdenum compound.

52.-58. (Cancelled)